

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

Dublin, Louis I., Edited by. *Population Problems in the United States and Canada.* (1926. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston and New York).

THIS volume, appearing as Number Five of the publications of the Pollock Foundation for Economic Research, is described as an outgrowth of papers presented at the 86th Annual Meeting of the American Statistical Association in December 1924. It consists of nineteen contributions from as many different persons, grouped under the main headings of 'Statement of the Problem,' 'Population and Natural Resources,' 'Population and Immigration,' 'Population and Labour Supply,' and 'The Outlook for the Future.' The first contribution is an introduction by Mr. Louis I. Dublin, the statistician to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, who as Editor of the volume is generally responsible for its arrangement and for the selection of writers.

The result is a very interesting volume. The contributors have been well chosen; they all write competently and, with only an occasional exception, in a judicious and scientific spirit; they throw into high relief for European readers the outstanding differences between new and old world conditions. The differences, however, spring mainly from immigration, and immigration has now been cut down to something wholly different in quantity and quality from what it was before, from nearly 1,100,000 in 1914 to a quota of 150,000 from 1927 onwards; of the immigrants of 1914, 916,000 came from countries in South East and Eastern Europe, whose future quota is 20,000. With this change of policy accomplished, special importance attaches to the conclusions reached both by Professor Reuter, of Iowa University, and Professor MacIver, of Toronto University, in the concluding paper. Both these writers emphasise the growing similarity, apart from immigration of American and European conditions in respect of natural increase. We are clearly about to see in America a society in which growth of numbers, whether by immigration or by birth, is strictly controlled and limited, while the country is still, by European standards, empty.

The separate contributions are of such generally even merit that it is almost invidious to particularise among them. The broad features of the growth of the American population are succinctly set out by Professor Reuter of Iowa; the differential fertility of different classes and districts is illustrated, with many new figures, by Mr. Warren S. Thompson, of the Scripps Foundation of Miami. The relation of population to the agricultural and the mineral resources of the country forms the subject of useful papers by Professor Don D. Lescohier of Wisconsin, Dr. Alonzo Taylor of Stanford, Mr. F. G. Tryon and Miss

Lida Mann of the United States Geological Survey. Dr. Ales Hrdlicka of the United States National Museum supplies an extremely interesting anthropometric analysis of the 'American type,' from examination of nearly 1000 adults of proved native-born ancestry for three generations; the type proves to be a good one, taller than any of the larger groups of white people, nearest, as might be expected, to the British from which it originated, but already showing distinctive features. The development and striking character of the new immigration policy are described by Mr. W. W. Husband of the Department of Labour; a suggestive companion piece to this is afforded by Mr. R. H. Coates' account of the immigration programme of Canada. The relations of population and unemployment, the influence of public health movements on numbers and quality of population and many other matters are dealt with adequately.

The volume has the defects as well as the qualities normally incidental to such symposia. It is suggestive of nearly all the main problems of population rather than satisfying in relation to any of them. The space available for each of the contributors does not allow of the marshalling of all the facts needed to support extensive generalisations. The interest and the topical importance of the subject make the temptation to generalisation beyond the marshalled facts hard to resist. Thus Mr. Dublin, when he passes from his valuable statistical investigation of the actual rate of increase of the American population, to consider the quality of the population declares, without statistical or other evidence, that 'Throughout all ages the leaders of mankind have come predominantly from homes which at first sight seemed most unpromising and commonplace,' or again that 'There has *always* been a differential birth-rate and a replacement of one group of people above by another *equally good* from below.' (The italics are mine, and indicate the more violently debatable points in this thesis). Professor Wolfe, in citing among the 'essential considerations' commonly lost sight of by population optimists the view of an earlier writer that 'it is inconceivable that technical advance can maintain' the pace of the nineteenth century, goes further than most of the contributors in confusing authority and evidence. Even so generally judicious a writer as Professor S. J. Holmes in his suggestive and valuable discussion of the effect of the public health movement upon natural selection, puts forward as a fact, and not merely as a hypothesis for examination, that industrialisation leading to great inequalities in the working and housing conditions of different classes, has by differential death rates favouring the better stocks gone far to offset any harmful effects of public health legislation in preventing the extinction of the bad stocks. This is a very interesting suggestion, but would it stand the test of statistical verification? We know, at least in England, the measure both of the greater fertility and of the greater mortality of the poorer occupational classes and that the latter does not compensate for the former.

Mr. Warren S. Thompson is perhaps the most successful in making and keeping clear in all he says the fundamental distinction between opinions and facts. His main, and important, point that current views as to the relatively lower fertility of the native-born in America

need correction by allowance for differences between rural and urban populations is amply supported by census statistics; in the towns the immigrants reproduce much more freely than the native-born, but the country districts generally, which are also predominantly inhabited by the native-born, show higher fertility than the most fertile of the towns. But he is careful to point how far his argument falls short of finality and to mark clearly the point of transition from what he can give as facts to what he can present as personal opinions only.

W. H. BEVERIDGE.

Garrod D. E. A. *The Upper Palaeolithic Age in Britain.* Oxford at the Clarendon Press. 1926. Pp. 211. Price 10s. 6d. nett.

MISS GARROD has rendered a conspicuously useful service to everyone interested in the history of mankind and in particular of Britain for collecting and interpreting with sense and discrimination the scattered fragments of information concerning the phase of culture exhibited in Britain by members of the species *Homo sapiens* before the commencement of the Neolithic phase. As the Abbé Breuil has explained in an illuminating Preface, the need for such a work has been felt both by experts and amateurs interested in the study of mankind.

Although the works of the earliest members of our species in this island are almost wholly devoid of the aesthetic qualities that have aroused such widespread interest in the cave-paintings and sculpture of their time in France and Spain, from the scientific point of view they are equally important. The pioneer work in this department of archaeology and anthropology was done in Britain a little more than a century ago when Dean Buckland found in Wales the remains of the Aurignacian Man now known as "the Red Lady of Paviland" (in 1828), and two years later Father McEnery, who was less hampered by theological reserve than his Anglican brother, found flint implements associated with the bones of extinct animals in Kent's Cavern, near Torquay. Miss Garrod's book is a sober summary of all the authentic information now available concerning the industries of the Upper Palaeolithic phase of culture in Britain, with full bibliographical references. She does not attempt to discuss the people who made the implements she describes, excepting occasional references to human remains, such for example as those found by the enthusiastic Spelaeological Society of the University of Bristol at Aveline's Hole. Although no implements were found with it the interesting fossilised skull found in 1924 in an undisturbed stratum of Blue Clay in the City of London should have been mentioned. Whatever its exact age and affinities it belongs to the phase of culture with which this book deals; and, however enigmatic, it cannot be ignored. It is also unfortunate to give wider currency, as this book does to the unhappy term "Epipalaeolithic." If it is necessary to apply a special label to the phase that foretells the coming of the Neolithic "Hyponeolithic" would be happier than "Epipalaeolithic": but either of these is pedantic and destined to confuse rather than to elucidate the subject.